Private investments in mines

78. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have allowed private investment in mines and minerals sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) As per the National Mineral Policy (NMP), 1993, the non-fuel and non-atomic mineral sector has been thrown open for private investment including Foreign Direct Investment.

(b) and (c) For non-fuel and non-atomic minerals, the above mentioned National Mineral Policy is equally applicable to all States in the country.

Constitution of Committee of Ministers on Coal Industry

†79. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had constituted the Committees of Ministers from time to time to deliberate on the problems of the coal industry during the last five years;

(b) if so, the names of the Ministers nominated on these Committees during January, 2001 to July, 2004 togetherwith the dates on which they were nominated; and

(c) the number of meetings held by each of the Committee togetherwith the recommendations made by them on the problem of the industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Group of Ministers (GoM) was constituted on 11.12.2000 and its first meeting was convened on 14.12.2000 to consider the demands raised by the trade unions. The details of the constitution of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.